

Porthcawl
Urban District Council.



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

G. M. A. THOMAS

L.R.C.P., S.E., etc.

FOR THE YEAR 1939.

1940

PORT TALBOT

Printed by Order of the Urban District Council
by D. W. Jones, Port Talbot.



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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1939.



MEMBERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(Composed of the whole Council).

Councillor R. B. THOMAS, J.P. (Chairman of the Council).
Councillor W. T. BURNELL (Chairman of the Health Committee).
Councillor T. H. AUSTIN.

Councillor G. BEYNON.

Councillor R. D. CHALKE, M.A., LL.D. Councillor G. GLENTON.
Councillor D. JONES. Councillor W. E. JONES.
Councillor J. T. LEWIS. Councillor J. LOUGHLIN.
Councillor J. NEWMAN. Councillor J. PHILLIPS.
Councillor D. J. REES, J.P., O.B.E. Councillor E. THOMAS.
Councillor V. W. THOMAS.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

This Committee is comprised of the whole Council together with the following co-opted Members :—

Mrs. E. C. CHALKE, J.P. (*Chairman*).
Mrs. J. H. BERE. Mrs. A. LEWIS.
Mrs. A. BROOKE. Mrs. J. PHILLIPS.
Miss M. E. GARSED. Miss A. ROBERTS.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health—

G. M. A. THOMAS, L.R.C.P., S.E. (Part Time).

Sanitary Inspector—

R. P. DICKS, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
(Whole Time).

Health Visitor—

Nurse E. G. RICHARDS, M.B.E., S.R.N., H.V., S.C.M.,
Medical, Surgical Queens Nurse. (Part Time).

Porthcawl Urban District Council.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in Circulars 1961 and 2067 (Wales), issued by the Ministry of Health.

In view of the increasing pressure of work, and the need for strict economy of paper the Welsh Board of Health considers that interim reports only should be made for the year 1939, and accordingly this report is confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year.

Yours faithfully,

G. MORLEY THOMAS,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District in Acres	3,737
Estimated Resident Population, Middle 1939	7,027
At Census, 1921 { Total population at all ages	6,642
{ No. of Inhabited Houses	1,297
At Census, 1931 { Total population at all ages	6,447
{ No. of Inhabited Houses	1,530
{ No. of Families or Separate Occupiers	1,610
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1939)	2,340
Rateable Value	£58,922
Estimated Product of Penny Rate	£223

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District is situated on a promontory of the Glamorganshire Coast, between the ports of Cardiff and Swansea.

Its southerly aspect, sandy soil, and the fact that it is sheltered on the North and North East by a range of hills, make its climate congenial and healthy.

Porthcawl being a seaside resort, the chief occupations of the inhabitants are the keeping of hotels and boarding houses, and the maintenance of the necessary social services.

The outbreak of hostilities, and the consequent cancellation of holiday bookings caused serious loss and hardship to the majority of ratepayers in the town.

A small number of men residing in this area are employed in the coal mines and stone quarries which are situated in the neighbouring districts.

Unemployment (the Year 1939).

	Men	18—20	16—17	14—15	Women	18—20	16—17	14—15	Totals
Wholly Unemp.	71	10	2	—	15	17	7	2	124
Temp. Stopped	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5
Ins. Popu'tion	1077	110	75	73	383	157	130	63	2068

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1939 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Nett Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the district			
		Number	Rate per 1,000	Un'r 1 yr-of age		At all Ages.	
				Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate per 1,000
*1921	6,642	53	7.99	6	111.89	57	8.50
1925	6,830	111	15.96	6	55.04	84	12.29
*1931	6,210	67	10.78	1	15.00	70	11.27
1932	6,447	65	10.08	2	30.76	82	12.71
1933	6,100	77	12.62	4	51.94	91	14.91
1934	6,169	59	9.56	2	34.00	76	12.31
1935	6,430	85	13.21	3	35.00	84	13.06
1936	6,585	75	11.39	3	40.00	97	14.81
1937	6,693	74	11.06	3	40.00	74	11.06
1938	6,752	78	11.5	3	38.00	86	12.72
1939	7,027	106	15.08	3	28.3	92	12.17

*Census Figures.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1939.

(After correction for inward and outward transfers).

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births, Legitimate	48	51	99
„ „ Illegitimate	3	4	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—15.08			
Still Births	—	3	3
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still- births)—27.52			
Deaths	43	49	92
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—12.17			

Deaths and Death-rates from Puerperal causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.00
Other Puerperal Causes	0	0.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	0	0.00

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	28.30
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	30.30
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	0.00
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
All causes	.....	43	49
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....	—	—
2 Measles	.....	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	.....	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	.....	—	—
5 Diphtheria	.....	—	—
6 Influenza	.....	—	7
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	.....	—	—
9 Respiratory Tuberculosis	.....	1	4
10 Other Tuberculosis Diseases	.....	1	—
11 Syphilis	.....	—	—
12 General Paralysis of Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	.....	1	—
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	.....	4	3
14 Diabetes	.....	—	3
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage	.....	4	5
16 Heart Disease	.....	17	15
17 Aneurysm	.....	—	—
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	.....	—	—
19 Bronchitis	.....	2	—
20 Pneumonia	.....	—	—
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	.....	2	—
22 Peptic Ulcer	.....	—	—
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	.....	—	—
24 Appendicitis	.....	—	3
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	.....	—	—
26 Other diseases of the Liver, etc.	.....	1	—
27 Other digestive diseases	.....	2	—
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	.....	—	1
29 Puerperal Sepsis	.....	—	—
30 Other Puerperal Causes	.....	—	—
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Mal-formation, etc.	.....	2	—
32 Senility	.....	2	2
33 Suicide	.....	—	—
34 Other Violence	.....	2	1
35 Other defined causes	.....	1	5
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	.....	—	—
37 Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	.....	1	—

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

All Bacteriological and Chemical Work is carried out by an arrangement with the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. Frequent samples of water, milk, food-stuffs and clinical material are sent for examination and report. The following figures show the number of specimens, other than clinical material, examined at the Laboratory during 1939:—

Water (Bacteriologically)	17
Water (Chemically)	13
Non-Designated Milk (Bacteriologically)	22
Designated Milk (Bacteriologically)	13
Milk (For Tubercle Bacilli)	2

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Cases the two motor ambulances of the Bridgend Isolation Hospital are available.

For Non-Infectious Cases and Accidents one motor ambulance is available for this service; it is maintained by a local voluntary organisation.

In both instances the service has been satisfactory.

Nursing in the Home.

No provision is made by the Local Authority, this class of nursing being left to nurses in private practice and those from nursing centres.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Welfare Centre:—A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is conducted by the Council. The improved premises obtained

in the Lesser Hall of the Grand Pavilion have had to be relinquished for Air Raid Precautions purposes, and the sessions are now being held in temporary premises at the Gospel Hall, Lias Road.

Ante-Natal Clinic :—The clinic is held fortnightly, in the same building as the Welfare Centre.

School Clinics :—Are under the supervision of the Glamorgan Education Authority.

Tuberculosis Dispensary :—The nearest Dispensary serving this area is at the Old Cottage Hospital, Bridgend.

Venereal Diseases :—The Clinics are under the supervision of the County Public Health Authority, and the nearest treatment centre is situated at Port Talbot.

Hospitals Available.

For Small Pox the hospital near Cefn Hirgoed in the Penybont Area.

For general fever cases the Isolation Hospital near Bridgend.

For Tuberculosis. The Sanatoria and Tuberculosis Hospital of W.N.M.S., and G.C.C.

For Maternity. By arrangement with the Glamorgan Public Assistance Committee, cases are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the Bridgend Infirmary.

For Children. None.

General. Cardiff and Bridgend.

For Orthopaedics. Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.

The notification of Births Act, which requires all births and still births occurring after the 28th week of pregnancy to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours, forms the basis of health visiting. This duty has been well observed.

The number of births and still births is in the ratio of 35.33 to 1.

The total number of births notified was 109, including 3 still births.

Midwives notified 101. Doctors notified 8.

Work of the Health Visitor.

One part time Health Visitor is employed by the Authority.

Number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitor:—

(1) To expectant mothers—

First Visits	Nil.
Total Visits	Nil.

(2) To children under one year of age—

First Visits	75
Total Visits	336

(3) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years—

Total Visits	460
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Infant Welfare Centres.

(a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council

1

(b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were:—

(1) Under one year of age	54
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 yrs.	9

(c) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were:—

(1) Under one year of age	53
(2) Over one year of age	91

Ante-Natal Services.

(a) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council	1
(1) Total number of women who attended at the Clinic during the year	30
(b) Total number of expectant mothers antenatally examined, and of cases postnatally examined during the year, under arrangements made by the Council with private medical practitioners, excluding cases under included under (a) (1)	Nil.

Supply of Milk.

A supply of free milk is provided to necessitous cases for expectant mothers, nursing mothers and children up to five years of age.

During the year 506 gallons of milk, at a cost of £59/1/2, was supplied through this service.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No notifications were received during the year 1939.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Actual deaths—Porthcawl:—

(a) From Sepsis	Nil.
(b) From other causes	Nil.
Total	Nil.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Practically the whole of the area is served by a piped supply on the constant system through the mains of the Porthcawl Council's waterworks.

Before passing into the Service Reservoir the water is treated by mechanical filtration and chlorination. Sanction has now been obtained from the Ministry for the installation of two additional Rapid Filters. This will make a battery of six, capable in the aggregate of dealing with 30,000 gallons of water per hour.

Sufficiency of Supply.

Existing supplies are inadequate to meet increasing demands made upon the undertaking. The Pant-yr-Rhyll scheme of building a new impounding reservoir to hold 12 million gallons has had to be postponed owing to outbreak of war. Considerable use has been made of the new Bore Hole at Ffynon Fawr to augment the existing supply.

Steps taken to guard against Contamination.

The gathering grounds and water courses feeding Graig-yr-Aber Impounding Reservoir are the subject of regular inspections. The risk of pollution at Llwyn Gladys Farm still exists.

Quality of the Supplies.

The following table, of samples submitted to the County Public Health Laboratories for chemical and bacteriological examination, indicate the quality of the supplies.

	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Moderate Purity.</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory.</i>
Bacteriological	17	13	4	—
Chemical	13	12	1	—
Total	30	25	5	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The major portion of the district is sewered, one small section has a separate system for surface water drainage, the remainder is on a combined system.

The proposed works for dealing with flood water in the Eastern Section of the District have, also, had to be postponed.

Extension of Sewer.

Extensions to sewers have been made during the year in those parts of the area where building development has taken place.

Cesspools.

Number of cesspools in use is 43. There is one septic tank which receives the drainage matter from Locks Common conveniences.

The cleansing of cesspools is undertaken by the Local Authority; the modern vehicle used for this purpose minimises any nuisance which is caused by these operations.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Collection and transport of refuse is affected by means of two motor cleansing vehicles: the disposal is by tipping on one central "dump" near the Northern boundary of the Urban Area.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS.

Further sanitary improvements have been effected by the completion of roads under the Private Street Works Act, 1892. During the year a further 7 streets and 2 back lanes were completed.

SHOPS.

544 visits to shops were made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year. The following improvements were carried out at shops in the area:—

- 6 New Water Closets substituted for defective accommodation.
- 3 Drains repaired and properly ventilated.
- 3 Premises—provision of suitable and sufficient temperature.
- 2 Premises—provision of washing facilities.

Adequate ventilation was found in all shops inspected.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The number of houses found to be infested with bed bugs was seven. These premises were in private ownership—there are no Council Houses in the Area.

The work of disinfection in three of these cases was undertaken by the Public Health Department and the responsible parties had to meet the expenses incurred in carrying out the work.

In other instances the persons concerned are advised upon the most effective methods for freeing their homes and belongings from vermin.

Concentrations of Sulphur Dioxide gas and spraying with insecticide fluids are the chief methods employed for the eradication of these pests.

* RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Periodical visits were made throughout the year to piggeries, slaughterhouses, farm buildings, the refuse "dump," etc.; and as a result of the action taken for destroying these rodents, a large number of dead rats were accounted for.

The public are encouraged to seek advice by inquiries at the Council Offices, and advisory leaflets obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture were distributed throughout the area.

The methods employed for their destruction include trapping, gassing, poisoning, ferreting and shooting: the most effective of these is gassing by means of a "Clayton (Type F) Machine" using Sulphur Dioxide gas.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector are as follows:—

General Sanitation.

Water Supply	62
Drainage	754
Stables and Piggeries	15
Fried Fish Shops	9

Tents, Vans, Sheds	90
Factories—Mechanical	80
Non-Mechanical	49
Bakehouses	25
Public Conveniences	12
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	5
Refuse Collection	55
Refuse Disposal	21
Rats and Mice	55
Smoke Observations	3
Schools	9
Shops	544
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	166

Housing.

Under Public Health Acts.

Number of houses inspected	45
Visits paid to above houses	105

Under Housing Acts.

Number of houses inspected	29
Visits paid to above houses	40

Overcrowding.

Number of houses inspected	1
Visits paid to above houses	2

Verminous Premises.

Number of houses inspected	11
Visits paid to above houses	15
Miscellaneous housing visits	7

Infectious Diseases.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	42
Visits re-disinfection	53
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	38

Meat and Food Inspection.

Visits to:—

Slaughterhouses	450
Meat Shops	469
Fishmongers and Poulterers	106
Cowsheds	91

Dairies and Milkshops	120
Ice Cream Premises	39
Miscellaneous visits	20

Visits in connection with Sampling.

Milk—Bacteriological	45
Milk—Tubercle Bacilli	2
Water—Bacteriological	17
Miscellaneous visits	18

The Number of Notices served during the year.

Informal	41
Statutory—	
Public Health Act, 1936	9
Housing Act, 1936	7
Milk and Dairies Acts	3
Factory Act, 1937	1

Result of Service.

Nuisances and other matters dealt with satisfactorily	39
Notices not complied with	2

Verbal intimations resulted in a considerable amount of work being executed without the need for further action.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 48 Factories and Workshops distributed throughout the District. They are classified as follows :—

Engineering Works (Motor Repairs, etc.)	8
Bakehouses	9
Dressmakers	1
Wheelwrights	1
Shoemakers	9
Blacksmiths	1
Plumbers	2
Timber Merchants and Joiners	4
Builders Workshops	4
Sewage Pumping Stations	1
Gas Works	1
Cycle Repair Shops	1
Quarries	1
Printers	1
Upholsterers	1
Monumental Works	2

These premises have been visited periodically, and improvements were affected in cleanliness and sanitary accommodation.

Inspections of Factories.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>NUMBER OF— Written Notices.</i>		<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
1	2	3	4	
Factories with Mechanical Power	80	.....	1 —
Factories without Mechanical Power	49	.....	—	..... —
*Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises) .....	—	.....	—	..... —
Total	129	.....	1 —

*Electrical Stations are not included as Factories.

Defects Found.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>NUMBER OF DEFECTS—</i>				<i>No. of Offences in respect to which Prosecu- tions were Instituted</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>		
1	2	3	4	5	
Want of Cleanliness .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Overcrowding .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Unreasonable Temperature .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Inadequate Ventilation .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
<i>Sanitary Conveniences—</i>					
Insufficient .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Unsuitable or Defective	3	.....	3	.....	—
Not separate for Sexes.....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Other Offences .....	—	.....	—	.....	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)					
Total	3	.....	3	.....	—

SCHOOLS IN THE PORTHCAWL AREA.

Generally speaking, the hygienic conditions in the County Schools are satisfactory.

The sanitary conveniences, etc., are inspected periodically, and, any defects found are reported to the Education Authority for attention.

All milk supplied to the scholars attending these schools is "Pasteurised," and periodical samples collected from this supply are submitted to the County Analyst for Bacteriological Examination.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The general housing conditions in the area are good, action has been taken for the demolition of a few old cottages because their condition was such that they required demolition and complete reconstruction.

The work in connection with housing is mainly directed to systematic inspection for the maintenance of reasonable conditions of repair.

The attention usually given to this work could not be maintained due to the outbreak of hostilities, which also materially affected the progress in the building of new houses by private enterprise.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Unhealthy Areas Nil.

NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(1). Under the Housing Acts Nil.
(2). Other Powers Nil.

NUMBER OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Total 64
(1). By Local Authority Nil.
(2). By other Bodies and Persons 64

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts ... Nil

(1). By Local Authority Nil.

(2). By other Bodies and Persons Nil.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 86

Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 169

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts 30

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 42

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 1

(4) Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 54

2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 43

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 5

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.

(a) By Owners 5

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
(a) By Owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(e) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

TENTS, VANS AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.

As in previous years there was a large influx of campers into the district, and an indication of the increasing popularity of this form of holiday-making may be obtained from the following figures, which relate to August Bank Holiday week.

The insanitary conditions discovered in some instances resulted in Summary Proceedings being taken against the parties in default.

	Ordinary Camps.	Organised Camps.
Aggregate number of structures	1,784	271
Aggregate number of occupants	10,704	1,377
Total camping population in Civilian Camps		12,081
Total number of structures in use		2,055
Number of visits of inspection made to camping sites, 1939		90

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

No.	Nature of Offence.				Remarks.	
.....	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269				.....
1	Failure to comply with sanitary conditions			.....
	imposed on a Land Licence (Camping)			.....	Fined £25 & Costs
2	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Fined £5 & Costs
3	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Fined £20 & Costs
4	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Fined £9 & Costs
5	Occupying a Moveable Dwelling in excess			.....	Order made for
	of 42 consecutive days without a Licence			.....	removal of Dwell-
					ing.
6	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Do. Dd.
<hr/>						
.....	Shops Acts, 1912—1928.				.....
7	Failure to close shop for the serving of			.....
	customers at the Statutory time prescribed			.....
	by the Acts			.....	Fined £1
8	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Fined 10/-
9	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Fined 10/-
<hr/>						
.....	Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 93-94.				.....
10	Failure to comply with an Abatement			.....	Nuisance Order
	Notice.			.....	made.
11	Do.	Do.	Do.	.....	Do. Do.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairy Farms in the Urban Area	.....	18
The number of Milch cows kept approximate to	180	
Producers of Graded Milk	.....	2
Number of Retail Purveyors:—		
(a) Resident	.....	16
(b) Non-resident	.....	4
Number of Dairy Milkshops	.....	4

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk.

Four retail purveyors hold licences for the sale of Graded Milk. The Special Designations are:—

Tuberculin Tested (Certified). Licenced by the County	1
Tuberculin Tested	2
Pasteurised	1
Visits to Cowshed during the year	91
Visits to Dairies and Milkshops	120
Visits in connection with Sampling of Milk (Bacteriological)	45
Miscellaneous visits in connection with milk supply	15

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The reports of the County Bacteriologist on Samples of Milk submitted for examination from this District are as follows:—

Designated Milk:—

<i>Taken.</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory.</i>	<i>No. of Moderate Bacterial Purity.</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory.</i>
By Sanitary Inspector	13	11	—	2
Totals	13	11	—	2

Undesignated Milk:—

<i>Taken.</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory.</i>	<i>No. of Moderate Bacterial Purity.</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory.</i>
By Sanitary Inspector	22	11	3	8
By Police	4	4	—	—
Totals	26	15	3	8

Samples Tested for the Presence of Tubercle Bacilli.

Undesignated Milk.

<i>Taken.</i>	<i>Number of Samples.</i>	<i>Number Positive.</i>	<i>Number Negative.</i>
By Sanitary Inspector	2	—	2
Totals	2	—	2

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT SHOPS.

The number of licensed slaughterhouses and their situations are as follows :—

- (1) Cae Gwtr, Vernon Road.
- (2) Ty Slon, Rear of Crynalit House, Newton.

Number of Meat Shops in the Area	10
Visits paid to Slaughterhouses	450
Visits paid to Meat Shops and Stalls	469

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act provides for the humane and scientific slaughter of animals in slaughterhouses and knackers' yards, and for the licensing of all slaughtermen by the Local Authority.

The number of licences granted by the Council in 1939 9

Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

Notices of intended slaughter, outside the regular hours, and which must be delivered to the Sanitary Inspector were as follows :—

Three Hours' Notice (Butchers)	6
Three Hours' Notice (Cottagers)	1
Notice of Disease	2
Notice of emergency slaughter	—

The requirements as to the giving of notice are well observed

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle.		Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
	M.	F.			
Number killed	59	56	43	2,827	260
Number inspected	59	56	43	2,827	260
(All diseases except Tuberculosis)—					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	2	2
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	7	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	11.3	—	—	0.3	2.3
(Tuberculosis only).					
Whole Carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.0	—	—	—	1.5

Summary of Weight of Meat Condemned :—

	<i>Weight.</i>
Bovines—Tuberculosis	519
Other Diseases	124
Pigs—Tuberculosis	22
Other Diseases	129
Sheep and Lambs—Other Diseases	75
Total	869

Or 0 tons, 7 cwts, 3 qrs., 1 lb.

The following table shows the number of carcasses examined and the amount of meat condemned during 1939 and previous years.

Year.	Weight of Meat Condemned.				No. of Carcasses Examined.
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	
1930	1	14	0	25	1,699
1931	1	2	0	23	2,251
1932	0	13	3	24	2,854
1933	0	18	3	2	2,684
1934	0	11	0	18	2,600
1935	0	6	1	14	2,609
1936	0	4	2	8	3,140
1937	0	10	2	14	2,848
1938	0	11	0	0	2,793
1939	0	7	3	1	3,245

Other Foods condemned:—

1 Box of Kippers (14lb. nett)	Decomposing.
6 Tins of Jellied Veal (36lb. nett)	Bad & Blown
11 Tins of Pineapple	Do.
3 Tins of Red Cherries	Do.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Acts is undertaken by the Police, under the direction of the County Council. I am indebted to Police Superintendent W. C. May for the following particulars of samples taken in the district during the year.

Samples.	No. Taken.
New Milk	27
Butter	2
Lard	2
Cheese	1
Total	<u>32</u>

Upon analysis, all samples proved to be genuine.

The new Food and Drugs Act which came into force in October, 1939 contains important provisions relating to premises where food (other than Milk) intended for sale, is prepared, manufactured, or stored, etc.

Work in connection with the inspection and registration of these premises has commenced.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases notified was 6, as compared with 13 during 1938, and 26 notifications during 1937.

No deaths occurred from this disease.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided free to Medical Practitioners for patients residing within the Urban Area. Quantities are kept at the Council Offices and at the Medical Officer's Residence and also at the Police Stations at John Street, Newton and Nottage, where it may be procured immediately at any hour.

No action was taken to provide artificial immunisation against Diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever.

14 cases of this disease were notified. The disease continued to be of a mild type, and no deaths occurred.

Pneumonia.

2 cases of Pneumonia were notified during 1939, both patients recovered.

Other Notifiable Diseases.

Notification was received of one case of Acute Poliomyelitis; the case was treated at home and the patient made a good recovery.

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of these diseases was not marked during the year. No deaths were recorded for Whooping Cough or Measles.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year, 1939.

Notifiable Diseases.	Cases notified in whole District.													Total No. of Cases removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	At Ages—Years.														
	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total		
1. Scarlet Fever	—	4	—	1	—	4	2	—	3	—	—	—	14	12	—
2. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	6	4	—
3. Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
5. Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	—	4	—	1	—	7	4	1	5	1	—	—	23	16	—

Deaths from Cancer, 1939.

Organ or Part affected.	AGE GROUPS										Total Deaths	
	0—15		15—25		25—45		45—65		65 Up			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Colon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oesophagus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Body of the Pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Venihcule	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

There are no facilities provided within the Area for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer.

The nearest voluntary hospitals are situated at Cardiff.

Tuberculosis.

Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.						Deaths.					
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	2	—	1	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	2
25—35	1	1	—	1	1	2	1	2	—	—	1	2
35—45	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
65 & Up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	3	—	3	4	6	2	4	—	—	2	4

The number of new cases coming to my knowledge was 10 giving a rate of 1.32 new cases per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Death rate per 1,000 of the population:—

Pulmonary Forms	0.79
Other Forms	0.00

Observation Cases.

Deleted from the Register :—

By Death	6
Removal from the District	Nil.
Altered Diagnosis	Nil.
Recovered	Nil.

Public Health Act, 1925.—Section 62.

The Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936.—Section 174.

No action was taken under the above Acts and Regulations.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases.			Vision Un- impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hosp'l.				
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Public Vaccination.

No vaccinations or re-vaccinations were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1939.

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births :—				
Live	15.0	14.8	15.6	12.3
Still	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.44
Deaths :—				
All Causes	12.1	12.0	11.2	11.9
Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02
Influenza	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.18
Notifications :—				
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1.89	1.96	1.78	1.53
Diphtheria	1.14	1.21	1.16	0.98
Enteric	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Erysipelas	0.34	0.40	0.31	0.37
Pneumonia	1.02	1.21	0.89	0.99
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	50	53	40	48
Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.6	6.3	3.0	8.2
Maternal Mortality :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.77	} Not available.		
Others	2.16			
Total	2.93			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live & Still).				
Maternal Mortality :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.74	} Not available.		
Others	2.08			
Total	2.82			
Notifications :—				
Puerperal Fever } Puerperal Pyrexia }	14.35	17.26	12.99	3.31
				14.22

Glamorgan (Administrative County). VITAL STATISTICS, 1939.

District	Births.				Deaths.				Infant Mortality.			
	Estimated Population (including Non-civilians) Mid-Year 1939 (a)	Estimated Population for calculation of death rates (b)	Number of Births	Rate per 1000	Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1000	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1000 Births	Adjusted Birth figure for calculation I.M. rate		
Administrative County	709,500	711,900	11,008	15.6	.....	9,322	13.1	665	60	11,145	
Urban Districts	525,800	527,700	8,345	15.9	.....	7,184	13.6	513	61	8,412	
Rural Districts	183,700	184,200	2,723	14.8	.....	2,138	11.6	152	50	2,733	
England and Wales	—	—	—	15.0	.....	—	12.1	—	50	—	
Urban Districts—												
Aberdare	42,620	42,560	615	14.4	.....	647	15.2	31	50	615	
Barry Boro'	36,240	36,840	660	18.2	.....	485	13.2	25	38	664	
Bridgend	11,250	11,660	230	20.4	.....	158	13.5	5	22	231	
Caerphilly	31,990	31,860	637	19.9	.....	417	13.1	42	66	639	
Cowbridge	1,020	1,040	14	13.7	.....	12	11.5	—	—	14	
Gelligaer	36,350	36,210	692	19.0	.....	474	13.1	50	72	698	
Glyncorrwg	9,473	9,396	174	18.4	.....	111	11.8	10	57	174	
Llwhwr	25,440	25,630	369	14.5	.....	277	10.8	16	43	369	
Maesteg	22,170	22,420	361	16.3	.....	327	14.6	31	84	367	
Mountain Ash	33,080	32,900	543	16.4	.....	476	14.5	45	82	546	
Neath Boro'	31,330	31,530	414	13.2	.....	399	12.6	17	41	415	
Ogmore & Garw	23,530	23,520	373	15.8	.....	309	13.1	19	50	376	
Penarth	16,030	16,280	193	12.0	.....	225	13.8	8	41	194	
Pontypridd	38,240	38,330	546	14.3	.....	559	14.6	37	67	553	
PORTHCAWL	7,027	7,554	106	15.1	.....	92	12.2	3	28	106	
Port Talbot Boro'	40,410	40,670	659	16.3	.....	500	12.3	53	80	661	
Rhondda	119,600	119,300	1,759	14.7	.....	1,716	14.4	121	68	1,790	
Rural Districts—												
Cardiff	32,360	32,850	459	14.2	.....	349	10.6	21	46	460	
Cowbridge	14,350	13,840	208	14.5	.....	133	9.6	10	48	208	
Gower	10,500	10,490	124	11.8	.....	113	10.8	5	40	124	
Llantrisant & Llantwit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pardre	24,040	23,950	444	18.5	.....	306	12.8	26	58	466	
Neath	40,490	40,550	623	15.4	.....	489	12.1	41	65	626	
Penybont	28,180	28,760	466	16.5	.....	330	11.5	26	56	466	
Pontardawe	33,780	33,760	399	11.8	.....	418	12.4	23	57	404	

